author to run in opposite directions, which he subsequently saw was not the case,—their direction is the same. This error he corrected in Müller's Archiv for 1850.

The author remarks, that observers in their endeavours to reach the *ultimate* structure of the muscular fibril have actually gone too far, and reached a later generation,—mistaking for the fibril a row of quadrilateral particles, the mere elements thereof. These particles, he observes, are known to be alternately light and dark in alternate order; they give origin to the term spirals; and for this purpose the dark particles undergo what observers have entirely overlooked, division and subdivision, which changes he has figured in Müller's Archiv, 1850. The preparation in which he has again met with the subdivision into four is still, the author states, in his possession for demonstration to others.

2. "On the penetration of Spermatozoa into the interior of the Ovum; a Note showing this to have been recorded as an established fact in the Philosophical Transactions for 1843." By Martin Barry, M.D., F.R.S., F.R.S.E. Received February 24, 1853.

Referring to a statement by Dr. Nelson, in a paper "On the reproduction of the *Ascaris Mystax*," that the investigations in that paper "appear to be the first in which the fact of the penetration of spermatozoa into the ovum has been distinctly seen and clearly established in one of the most highly organized of the Entozoa," the author of the present communication remarks, that when Dr. Nelson made this statement he was evidently not aware of what had been published on the subject. In proof of this Dr. Barry refers to his own paper, entitled "Spermatozoa observed within the Mammiferous Ovum" (Phil. Trans. 1843, p. 33), in which he states that he had met with ova of the Rabbit containing a number of spermatozoa *in their interior*; and to the Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal for October 1843, which contains a drawing in which seven spermatozoa are represented in the interior of an ovum, besides the statement that in one instance he had counted more than twenty spermatozoa in a single ovum. In conclusion he remarks, that Dr. Nelson merely added a further confirmation in ova of an entozoon, to what his own researches on mammiferous ova had enabled him to record as an established fact nine years before.

The Society then adjourned to the 7th of April.

April 7, 1853.

COLONEL SABINE, R.A., Treas. & V.P., in the Chair.

A paper was read, entitled "Observations on the Anatomy of the Antennæ in a small species of Crustacean." By John D. McDonald, M.D., Assistant Surgeon to H.M.S.V. Torch. Communicated by